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Attorney's Docket No. 5718-16A (035718/193734)

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1652**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Appl. No.: 09/478,598
Filed: January 6, 2000
For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR ALTERING
AMINO ACID CONTENT OF PROTEINS

Confirmation No.: 1892
Group Art Unit: 1652
Examiner: P. Tung

APR 24 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

March 29, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action of 2 January 2002. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please revise the one-line paragraph beginning on page 3, line 2, to read as follows:

Figure 1 and Figure 1A show VSP homologies.

In the Claims:

88. (Amended) The protein of Claim 87, wherein said essential amino acids are selected from the group consisting of methionine, tryptophan, lysine, valine, phenylalanine, isoleucine, leucine, threonine and cysteine.

109. (Amended) The protein of Claim 108, wherein said essential amino acids are